

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1 (Amended). A satellite network system having STAR topology comprising:

a hub site; and

~~at least one~~ a plurality of remote sites, each remote site having a remote site modem to allow directly communication with another remote site;

wherein call control and management between the hub site and the remote site use Internet Protocol (IP) addressing and HDLC addressing at a ~~the~~ link level for identification thereby allowing only a desired remote site to read data transmitted;

wherein direct single-hop connectivity is achieved between remote sites through the use of IP addressing.

2 (Cancelled).

3 (Original). The network system of Claim 2 further comprising:

a first communication channel to transmit data to the plurality of remote sites; and

a plurality of second communication channels to transmit data from the plurality of remote sites to the hub.

4 (Original). The network of Claim 1 wherein the hub site comprises:

a first IP modem for receiving and transmitting data to and from the hub site and for maintaining a network database; and
at least a second IP modem for receiving data from a remote site.

5 (Original). The network of Claim 1 wherein the at least one remote site comprises a remote modem for continuously receiving data from the hub site and for transmitting data when required.

6 (Amended). A network system comprising:

a hub site;

a plurality of remote sites, each remote site having a remote site modem to allow directly communication with another remote site and for continuously receiving data from the hub site and for transmitting data when required; and

a satellite for transmitting data to and from the hub site and the remote site;

wherein call control and management between the hub site and the remote site use Internet Protocol (IP) addressing and HDLC addressing for identification;

wherein direct single-hop connectivity is achieved between remote sites through the use of IP addressing.

7 (Amended). A network system in accordance with Claim 6 further comprising a plurality of channels wherein the plurality of channels comprises:

a first communication channel to transmit data to the plurality of remote sites; and

a plurality of second communication channels to transmit data from the plurality of remote sites to the hub.

8 (Original). The network of Claim 7 wherein the hub site comprises:

a first IP modem for receiving and transmitting data to and from the hub site and for maintaining a network database; and

at least one second IP modem for receiving data from a remote site.

9 (Cancelled).

10 (Amended). The network of Claim 8 7 wherein ~~a the~~ data base stored in the first IP modem maintains a listing of all the plurality of channels in the network; a listing of destination IP addresses and destination HDLC addresses for each of the plurality of channels; a listing of a guaranteed minimum available bandwidth of each of the plurality of channels and a listing of a maximum allowable bandwidth of each of the plurality of channels.

11 (Amended). The network of Claim 10 wherein the data base stored in the first IP modem ~~primary network control modem~~ maintains a listing of encryption capability of each channel.

12 (Amended). A network system having STAR topology and which allows on demand single hop connectivity between remote sites comprising:

a hub site;

a plurality of remote sites;

a first channel for sending data from the hub site to all of the plurality of remote sites;

a plurality of second channels for transmitting data from each of the plurality of remote sites to the hub site and for transmitting data between the plurality of remote sites;

wherein call control and management between the hub site and the remote sites and between different remote sites use Internet Protocol (IP) addressing for identification;

wherein the hub site comprises:

a first IP modem for receiving and transmitting data to and from the hub site and for maintaining a network database;

at least a second IP modem for receiving data from a remote site; and

a single hop server for configuring channels to transmit data directly between different remote sites

wherein each of the plurality of remote sites comprises:

a first remote modem for continuously receiving data from the hub site and for transmitting data when required; and

a second remote modem for receiving data sent from a different remote site.

13 (Cancelled).

14 (Cancelled).

15 (Original). A method for allowing a network system having STAR topology to perform on demand single hop connectivity between remote sites comprising the steps of:

providing a single hop server at a hub site of the network system;

providing a first remote modem at each remote site for continuously receiving data from the hub site and for transmitting data when required;

providing a second remote modem at each remote site that receives data from a second remote site for receiving data sent from a different remote site;

configuring the network so call control and management between the hub site and the remote sites and between different remote sites use Internet Protocol (IP) addressing for identification; and

configuring a direct channel between remote sites that are communicating to transmit the data.

16 (Original). The method of Claim 15 wherein the step of configuring a direct channel between remote sites that are communicating comprises the steps of:

 sending a signal from a first remote site to the hub site requesting a single hop connection to a second remote site;

 checking by the hub site to see if the second remote site is tuned to a carrier being transmitted by the first remote site;

 selecting an HDLC address from an available range;

 configuring the second remote site to add the selected IP HDLC address for receiving data; and

 configuring the first remote site to start using the selected IP HDLC address.

17 (Original). The method of Claim 15 wherein the step of configuring a direct channel between remote sites that are communicating comprises the steps of using an existing HDLC address when the second remote site is configured to receive a maximum number of HDLC addresses.

18 (Original). The method of Claim 15 further comprising the step of monitoring for a timeout to determine an end of transmitting data.

19 (Original). The method of Claim 15 wherein the single hop server can preempt an existing connection to allow a higher priority connection to proceed.

20 (Original). The method of Claim 15 wherein the single hop server can queue a request until a remote modem at a desired remote site becomes available.

21 (Original). The method of Claim 15 wherein the network system seamlessly changes topology to support application demand without human intervention and without causing loss of connectivity for current traffic.

22 (Original). The method of Claim 15 wherein the single hop server can dynamically adjust transmit power of a carrier for single-hop remote to remote connection to compensate for smaller antenna size at the remote sites.